# Chief of Staff visit to see Team Charleston at work

By Col. Karl Young

437 AW vice commander

Today marks the first official visit of the Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Michael E. Ryan to Charleston Air Force Base. We are fortunate to have him visit. General Ryan will be spending quite of bit of time meeting with our people to hear our thoughts and share some of his own ideas with us.

General Ryan is scheduled to host separate enlisted and officer calls in the Charleston Club. In addition, he'll have lunch with the wing leadership, to include the top enlisted leadership. We also have the CSAF slated to meet with our honorary commanders and the wing leadership during a reception in the Charleston Club on Sunday. Finally on Monday, there will be one last opportunity for the CSAF to meet our NCO's over breakfast at the dinning facility before he leaves.

Also during his visit, we'll show him our award winning Hunley Park housing project. On Friday evening, he will speak to the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps cadets at the As the wing change of command rapidly approaches on March 20, it is especially important that we all do our best to ensure the outgoing and incoming wing commanders are welcomed and farewelled in true Team Charleston style.

Citadel during their annual dining

By now, the base should be spruced up for the CSAF's visit. We want to put our best foot forward so please do your part in picking up any trash that you may see on the base. Please pitch in to ensure the CSAF sees our beautiful base as a result of a true Team Charleston effort!

Last Saturday, we were fortunate to host for an orientation the Lord Mayor of Kaiserslautern, Bernhard Deubig, Mayor (Dr.) Arne Oeckinghaus and Wolfgang Herzog, manager of Technical Works (a large German power company). Major Günter Koch, our German Air Force exchange officer assigned to the 14<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron did a superb job in showing our special guests around the base last Saturday.

Kaiserslautern is the largest United States community outside of Ramstein Air Base with more than 35,000 Americans who support 12 military installations in Germany. The lord mayor has been extremely supportive of the military presence and Kaiserslautern has taken on even more increased importance as we have closed Rhein Main, Hahn and a number of other Air Bases in the past few years.

The group saw the command video and received a briefing on C-17 capabilities as well as its recent role in Operation ALLIED FORCE, emphasizing the importance of Ramstein as an intermediate staging base for the movement of Task Force Hawk. The dialogue included a discussion of future NATO security interests, and how Ramstein's importance would only increase in the future.

Following an "entertaining" C-17 simulator ride for all three, the group boarded a Reserve European-Strategic Intra-theater Deployment C-17 and flew to Dover Air Force Base, Del.

During that flight, the group was cycled in and out of the cockpit while Major Koch kept them informed on the flight's progress.

Colonels Ed Stickler and Ron Richardson served as the respective wing hosts. Colonel Richardson and Major Koch escorted them on the C-17 flight from Charleston to Dover and then back to Germany. The German contingent was traveling at the invitation of the Headquarters U.S. Air Forces in Europe vice commander, Lt. Gen. Charles R. Holland.

Upon their return to Germany on Sunday at 1:15 p.m., USAFE senior leadership met the group. The group shared many positive comments about their visit to Charleston and the C-17.

As the wing change of command rapidly approaches on March 20, it is especially important that we all do our best to ensure the outgoing and incoming wing commanders are welcomed and farewelled in true Team Charleston style. Please do everything you can to assist during this very busy period for the base.

Have a great week.

### **Action Line**

The Commander's Action line is your direct link to me. It's your opportunity to make Charleston Air Force Base a better place to live, work and play.

First give the appropriate base agency a chance to solve the problem, but if you don't get a satisfactory answer, call me at *963-5581* o

answer, call me at **963-5581** or send an e-mail to **action@charleston.af.mil** 

Callers are encouraged to leave their name and phone number so we can provide a personal reply. Remember the easiest way to resolve problems is to call the agency responsible directly or to use your chain of command.

Here are some commonly used phone numbers:

Security Forces	963-3600
Base Exchange	552-5000
Commissary	963-5695

#### Abuse of authority?

I have a question about off-base authorities on-base. I understand they can write tickets, but it's also my understanding that when they are not responding to an emergency call they have to obey the base speed limit. This is becoming a concern of mine, because over time I have noticed the police are not obeying the base speed limits, but they will cite you if you don't. This is the off-base authorities, not the on-base. I was curious how this gets handled and what chain I need to go through.

Thanks for taking the time to call regarding civilian police authorities speeding on base. We have an excellent relationship with our local police agencies, North Charleston Police Department and the Charleston County Sheriff's Office. Should you have need to complain about performance of any of their officers please call 554-5700 for NCPD and 554-4700 for the CCSO.

Should their actions on base be unsafe (i.e., speeding such that it endangers others) please call the security forces control center at 963-3600. Please keep in mind that police officers receive special training, which allows them to exceed

posted speed limits when responding to calls. It is not necessary for them to run lights and sirens to do so, but that is situation dependent.

### Bad dog

I have a question about a dog living on base. This dog has torn up a security policeman's pants leg, tore up my dog and it just bit a little girl a day ago. I'm wondering why this dog is still on base, and not inside the house. The owners still have the dog outside.

Thanks for your concern in this situtation. As you are aware, residents are responsible for controlling their pets in housing by either leashing or fencing them. The Base Vet Clinic verified the dog is current on all vaccinations and Security Forces personnel verified the dog was properly chained to a fixed post in the yard. The base emphasizes the safety of our children and goes to great lengths to keep them safe. However, parents are ultimately responsible for the safety, care, well-being and behavior of their children. Let's work together to keep our children safe, as well as control our pets.

## Airlift DISPATCH

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#### Editorial Staff

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